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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****In Re the Application of:**

Richard L. Bertram

Serial No.: 09/097,221

Filing Date: June 12, 1998

Title: INTEGRATED COMPOSITE  
STRUCTURAL CONDUIT  
FORMED IN PLACE

Group Art Unit: 1772

Atty. Docket: 6337.1024

Examiner: Sandra M. Nolan

The Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C.  
U.S.A. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
hand carried to the U.S. Patent and Trademark  
Office on 2/27/04

Matthew A. Pequignot  
MATTHEW A. PEQUIGNOT, REG. 43,851 DATE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

In response to the Office Action of August 27, 2003,  
Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the  
following amendments and remarks.